

Making Prevention Work

Actions for African Americans



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Resource Center
State of California
Alcohol and Drug Programs
1700 K Street
First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

(800) 879-2772 (California Only)
(916) 327-3728
FAX: (916) 323-1270
TTY: (916) 445-1942
Internet: <http://www.adp.ca.gov>
E-Mail: ResourceCenter@adp.state.ca.us

- **Challenge** myths about African-American youth and their involvement with alcohol and other drugs. Celebrate the resilience and pride of young African Americans.
- **Encourage** African American communities to fight drugs and crime and violence. Seek out and disseminate relevant, up-to-date information throughout your community. Identify local and national alcohol- and drug-related resources and provide churches, community organizations, and families information about how to access them.
- **Create** bonds with young African Americans, families, churches, school, law enforcement, businesses, and the media. Learn to work together and share resources.
- **Volunteer** your time and skills to work with community organizations, youth groups, etc. Mentoring, tutoring, skill building, and other activities help motivate youth, and help build drug-resistant communities.
- **Provide** financial backing and other important resources to support alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention events and activities. Fliers, buttons, and balloons can also help promote prevention.
- **Encourage** young people to participate in alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention youth activities.
- **Sponsor** alcohol, tobacco, and other drug-free events for youth and provide safe environments for their activities.
- **Promote** prevention activities at business meetings and in your office correspondence. Many corporations and individuals want to do more but need guidance and suggestions on what to do. A good starting place is CSAP's National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information. Call 800-729-6686.
- **Donate** space in your convenience store, video game center, clothing or record store for posters and other prevention materials.
- **Share** pride in the accomplishments of neighborhood children by writing to your community newsletter, city newspaper, and TV editors about their activities.

- **Hold** a town meeting to learn what your neighbors think and what they want to do to make a difference.
- **Set up** an alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention information hotline.
- **Be a positive role model**, especially for young children. Help them find ways to resolve their problems without resorting to violence or substance abuse.